



Littlefield Letters



Vol. 87

JULY 1987

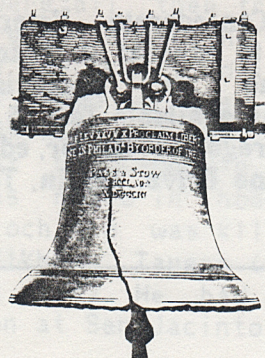
No. 7

JULY MUSTER CALL

date: Thursday
9 July 1987
time: 6:15 p.m. Mess Call
place: Wyatt's Cafeteria
Hancock Center

We have a special treat in store for you this month. Dr. David B. Gracy II who is the Great Great Nephew of our namesake will talk about aspects of the life of MAJOR GEORGE WASHINGTON LITTLEFIELD. Not only is the Major a family antecedent, but David has spent many hours professionally researching this man. David is the Governor Bill Daniel Professor of Archival Enterprise at the University of Texas.

Attendance at our recent meetings has been great. With a speaker the caliber of this one, we will all want to make a special effort to attend!



ENLISTMENTS

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome our newest members and update your rosters with this information. WILLIAM ERNEST MURPHY joined the SCV upon the record of his Great Grandfather Andrew Jackson Hill who was a private in Co. B, 30th Ala. Inf. Reg't. and who served until the close of the war. Mr. Murphy was born in Johnson Co., Tx., and resides at 310 Elliott St., Taylor, Tx. 76574, #352-7469.

WILLIAM EARL COOPER joins the camp upon the record of his Great Great Grandfather John W. Williams who was a member of the 12th Texas Cav., Co. K, and who served until the end of the war. Bill was born in Italy, Tx., and is retired. He lives at 1313 Dwyce Dr., Austin 78757, #459-8298.

KERRY HELLUMS joins upon the record of his Great Great Grandfather John H. Hellums who was a private in Co. A, 8th Miss. Cav. and who served until May 1865. Kerry was born in Midland on 13 Nov. 1955. He works for the LCRA. His address is P.O. Box 431, San Marcos 78667, #353-3535.



STATES OF THE CONFEDERACY:

MISSISSIPPI

Contrary to what you may have learned from the singing of the "Bonnie Blue Flag", the second state to secede was Mississippi. The ordinance of secession was enacted in Jackson 9 January 1861. A New York "Herald" correspondent noted great rejoicing "...and the lone star is prominent." The ladies had presented the convention with the Bonnie Blue Flag. The Republic of Miss. joined the Confederacy in February. A Mississippian, Jefferson Davis, was chosen President which helped seal the ties with the new government. So many rushed to arms that the Confed. authorities could not place them or furnish them equipment and supplies. Gov. John Pettus wrote, "...all Miss. is in a fever to get to the field."

Beginning in the spring of 1862, Miss. was a battlefield. Few sections escaped the war's destruction. By the end of the war, the state lay in ruins. After the fall of Vicksburg (4 July 1863), most of the Confed. forces were transferred to other states, leaving only cavalry to protect the population and hamper the movement of Union troops across the state.

Miss. contributed 80,000 men to the war effort (a number greater than the number of white males between the ages of 18 and 45 according to the 1860 census). Less than 20,000 were "present or accounted for" in April 1865.

Three armies held the name "Confederate Army of Miss." They fought with Johnston at Shiloh, with Beauregard at Corinth, with Pemberton at Vicksburg, and with Joe Johnston against Sherman.

"A WALK IN HISTORY"

One phase of the Capitol restoration program (including the Goddess of Liberty, House Chamber, etc.) is the restoration of two of the walkways on the Capitol grounds which weather and continual use have deteriorated--the Oval Walk encircling the building and the Great Walk promenade leading from 11th & Congress to the main entrance. Each 28-inch diamond shaped component will be etched with the name of its contributor. Each contributor will receive a Certificate and a locator map. A master map will be permanently displayed in the Capitol. In addition invitations will be extended to attend the Capitol Centennial Celebration on 16 May 1988.

Compatriots, we have donated money for one block. Our block will read "Camp 59 Sons of Confederate Veterans". Those attending our May meeting approved the expense of \$332 for our block. The expense is to be borne by subscriptions from our members; the balance, if any, is to be paid from the treasury. We have received subscription donations of \$175. Most have been \$25 checks. We will accept a donation from you to pay for this memorial to this camp and the SCV. Please mail your donation to your Adjutant or bring it to the next meeting. Thanks!

The "Littlefield Letters" is the official publication of the Major George W. Littlefield Camp No 59, Sons of Confederate Veterans. Permission to reprint is granted; credit line is appreciated. Subscriptions available for \$5 per year from Gregory T. Hector, editor, 5914 Sunshine Drive, Austin, Texas 78757.

MONUMENT DESECRATION

Jefferson, Texas, which prides itself on its historic past and its old Southern homes, has a monument which was dedicated to the memory of the Confederate Dead. Sometime in the last couple of months, vandals have desecrated this monument. The word "Confederate" has been chiseled off the monument. Nothing as yet has been done to remedy or correct this abomination. We urge you to write to the city fathers of Jefferson asking them what they intend to do about this problem and when they intend to correct it. The person(s) who committed this act are guilty of a grievous wrong, but if the city refuses to set it right, then they will be guilty of one equally, if not more, wrong.



CAMP BEN REUNION

The 91st Annual Confederate Reunion was held at Camp Ben McCulloch in Driftwood June 19-26. Your editor and members of the Austin UDC Chapters were privileged to be invited guests at the United Daughters of the Confederacy Day. Greg Hector played Taps in uniform and gave a program of Confederate music accompanied by the banjo. We were all then treated to a sumptuous repast under the trees.

The Camp was organized in 1896 and is closely tied to the Austin area Veterans. By 1930 it was said to be the largest UCV Camp in the South. The Camp was named in honor of Gen. Ben McCulloch who was killed at the Battle of Elkhorn Tavern (Pea Ridge) on 7 March 1862. He had also served with Houston at San Jacinto and in the Mexican War.

R. E. LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Your camp has sent a donation to be used in conjunction with this school's R. E. Lee Pageant. The first one was held this year and was divided into four acts. The first act covered Lee's early years; the second covered his time in Texas. The third act was on the "Civil War"; the fourth was on Washington College. Please note that David Morris did everything in his power to get them not to use the term "C.W.", but to no avail. We have, as you know, adopted this school as one to help in any way we can. Programs have been given by our members. Their program thanked David, Belle Cook, and Greg Hector for their assistance.

MEMBERSHIP ITEMS AVAILABLE

This note is just to remind you that the SCV has many items available for its members to use for group identification. Membership Certificates are available. Officers can also get Commissions. Of course, there are lapel pins, decals, and a medal and certificate available for war service. Added lately has been the opportunity to purchase Supplemental Ancestor Certificates. Now we can honor all our ancestors who served the South. Contact your Adjutant for information about any of these items.

★ ★ ★ NOTICE ★ ★ ★

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Don't forget the SCV/MOSB General Convention to be held in Mobile August 5-8. This will be a very important one! Besides which they are loads of fun and are a good way to see how your Confederation works. See the Confederate Veteran for details.

THE GENERAL'S PRIVACY

Early in the War in western Virginia, Lee gave the troops a sign that he knew how to handle camp discipline. He was busy scouting near an outpost when a squad of soldiers gathered around, watching him, peering in the direction he turned his glasses, unconscious of their intrusion. Lee asked one of them:

"What regiment do you belong to?"

"First Tennessee, Maury Grays."

"Are you well drilled?"

"Yes, indeed."

"Take the position of a soldier."

The man came to attention.

"Forward march," Lee ordered. "By the right flank, march. Double-quick, march." The soldier paced off toward his camp, and his mates followed him. The general's privacy was invaded no more.

LITTLEFIELD MEMORIAL & PICNIC

Twenty-four Confederates were on hand June 20th to pay their respects to Maj. Littlefield at his gravesite in Oakwood Cemetery. Over one-half of these were in uniform. Our new Camp Bugler sounded the necessary bugle calls and the Battery resounded with the salute.

Twenty-seven then celebrated with a picnic lunch at the Hector's. The covered dish picnic foodstuffs that were shared were indeed delicious. This event each year has become one that is not only enjoyable, but is also anxiously awaited. If you missed it this year, you will have to wait another whole year before you can take part.

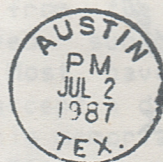
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Official Publication of the
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Major George Washington Littlefield Camp No 59

5914 Sunshine Drive • Austin, Texas 78757

Gregory T. Hector, Editor



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